

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for saving operational setting of an instrument, run by software, comprising the steps of:

initiating the saving operation;

initializing, by each software object, of any software object below it;

initializing the internal variables belonging to the software objects; and

saving the results to a file.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the file is modular.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the internal variable is designated in the file by a hierarchical path.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the internal variable is designated in the file by a hierarchical address.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the format of the file is human readable text.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the file constitutes a computer program.

13. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the format of the file is human readable text.
14. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the file constitutes a computer program.
15. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the computer program in an industry standard programming language.
16. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the industry standard programming language is Visual Basic Script.

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